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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/750,596	12/28/2000	Jack Lawrence Lerner	SCHW-510	6737

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EXAMINER

EL CHANTI, HUSSEIN A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2157

DATE MAILED: 06/04/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/750,596

Applicant(s)

LERNER, JACK LAWRENCE

Examiner

Hussein A El-chanti

Art Unit

2157

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 December 2000.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 28 December 2000 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to application filed on Dec. 28, 2000. Claims 1-37 are pending examination.

Drawings

2. Formal drawings are required to be submitted by the applicant.

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. Applicant is required to delete the embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. See MPEP § 608.01.

Claim Objections

4. A series of singular dependent claims is permissible in which a dependent claim refers to a preceding claim which, in turn, refers to another preceding claim.

A claim which depends from a dependent claim should not be separated by any claim which does not also depend from said dependent claim. It should be kept in mind that a dependent claim may refer to any preceding independent claim. In general, applicant's sequence will not be changed. See MPEP § 608.01(n).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

5. Claims 4 and 27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The term "near" in claim 27 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "near" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

The term "approximately" in claim 27 is a relative term which renders the claim indefinite. The term "approximately" is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-3 and 5-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Shi et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,875,296 (referred to hereafter as Shi).

As to claim 1, Shi teaches a method of providing a single sign-on distributed application services integration, comprising the steps of:

receiving a first indication of a user pointing a browser to a first application (see col. 3 lines 23-45);

receiving a cookie file of said browser corresponding to the user (see col. 3 lines 23-45);

updating said cookie file (see col. 3 lines 23-45);

receiving a second indication of said user pointing said browser to a second application (see col. 3 lines 35-45); and

providing said updated cookie file to said second application (see col. 3 lines 35-45).

As to claim 2, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said cookie file of said server domain received a said receiving step is encrypted (see col. 2 lines 35-65).

As to claim 3, Shi teaches the method of claim 2 further including the step of decrypting said encrypted cookie file (see col. 2 lines 35-65).

As to claim 5, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said first and second applications each includes one or more predetermined resources (see col. 3 lines 23-45).

As to claim 6, Shi teaches the method of claim 5 wherein said predetermined resources include one or more of a web page, a CGI script and a java servlet (see col. 3 lines 23-45).

As to claim 7, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said first and second applications reside in a central server domain (see col. 3).

As to claim 8, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said first and second applications are third party applications residing in a central server domain (see col. 3-col. 4).

As to claim 9, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said step of updating said cookie file includes the steps of:

comparing the cookie file to one or more of predetermined parameters; and

generating said updated cookie file based on said comparing step (see col. 3).

As to claim 10, Shi teaches the method of claim 9 wherein said step of comparing includes the step of reading said cookie file and retrieving a corresponding name=value pair for said user (see col. 3).

As to claim 11, Shi teaches the method of claim 9 wherein said predetermined parameters include a user identification information, a user event access history information, and a user access level information (see col. 5-col. 6).

As to claim 12, Shi teaches the method of claim 11 wherein said user identification information includes one or more of a user name, a user social security number, a user address, a user telephone number, a user email address, a user age, a user gender, a user account type, and a user account activity history (see col. 3).

As to claim 13, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said step of providing said updated cookie file is performed synchronously with the step of receiving said second indication (see col. 3).

As to claim 14, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein when second indication of said user pointing said browser to a second application is received, the updated cookie file is automatically provided to said second application (see col. 3).

As to claim 15, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said first application resides in a central server, and further, wherein said second application is linked by a hypertext link to a remote site (see col. 3 lines 23-35).

As to claim 16, Shi teaches the method of claim 1 wherein said step of receiving said first indication includes the steps of: receiving a user login information; and comparing said user login information to a predetermined login data (see col. 3 lines 23-35).

As to claim 17, Shi teaches the method of claim 16 wherein said user login information includes a user name and a password (see col. 3 lines 23-35).

As to claim 18, Shi teaches the method of claim 16 wherein said predetermined login data includes a user registration information (see col. 3 lines 23-35).

As to claim 19, Shi teaches the method of claim 16 further including the step of permitting user browser access to said first application based on the outcome of the comparing step (see col. 3).

As to claim 20, Shi teaches the method of claim 19 wherein said user browser is permitted access said first application when said comparing step returns a match flag (see col. 8-col. 9).

As to claim 21, Shi teaches the method of claim 19 wherein said user browser is not permitted access to said first application when said comparing step returns a fail flag (see col. 8-col. 9).

As to claim 22, Shi teaches the method of claim 21 wherein when a fail flag is returned, said method further comprising the step of prompting said user to reenter the user login information (see col. 8-col. 9).

As to claim 23, Shi teaches a system for providing a single sign-on distributed application services integration, comprising:

a client terminal; and

a central server coupled to said client terminal configured to receive from said client terminal a first indication of a user pointing a browser to a first application and a cookie file of said browser corresponding to the user;

wherein said central server is further configured to update said cookie file, and when a second indication of said user pointing said browser to a second application is received from said client terminal, said central server provides said updated cookie file to said second application (see col. 2-col. 3).

As to claim 24, Shi teaches a method of providing distributed application services integration, comprising the steps of:

detecting a user event;

generating a message corresponding to the detected user event; and
providing said message to one or more applications based on the user event
(see col. 3).

As to claim 25, Shi teaches the method of claim 24 wherein said step of
generating said message includes the step of encrypting said message (see col. 3).

As to claim 26, Shi teaches the method of claims 24 wherein said message
includes one or more of a detected user event information, a user information, and an
application corresponding to said detected user event (see col. 3).

As to claim 27, Shi teaches the method of claim 24 wherein said step of providing
said message occurs in near real time to said step of generating said message (see col.
3).

As to claim 28, Shi teaches the method of claim 24 wherein said step of providing
said message includes the steps of: receiving said message by a message broker;
parsing said message to determine which one or more of said applications are to
receive said message; and transmitting said message to said applications determined
based on parsing said message (see col. 3).

As to claim 29, Shi teaches the method of claim 24 further including the step of
storing said message (see col. 3).

As to claim 30, Shi teaches the method of claim 24 wherein said user event is detected when a user provides an indication pointing a browser to a first application (see col. 3).

As to claim 31, Shi teaches the method of claim 30 wherein said indication includes a mouse click on a hypertext link corresponding to a Uniform Resource Locator (URL) (see col. 3).

As to claim 32, Shi teaches the method of claim 31 wherein said first application is configured to receive said message (see col. 3).

As to claim 33, Shi teaches the method of claim 32 wherein said first application compares said message to a predetermined setting and generates a return message for transmission (see col. 3).

As to claim 34, Shi teaches the method of claim 32 further including the step of updating said message based on said return message (see col. 3).

As to claim 35, Shi teaches the method of claim 33 wherein said predetermined setting includes a user setting, a user event history, and a user activity (see col. 3).

As to claim 36, Shi teaches the method of claim 24 wherein said message is one of a data string, or a list of truth, false or conditional flags (see col. 8-col. 9).

As to claim 37, Shi teaches a system for providing distributed application services integration, comprising:

a client terminal; and

a central server coupled to said client terminal for detecting a user event at said client terminal; wherein said central server is further configured to generate a message corresponding to the detected user event and to provide said message to one or more applications based on the user event (see col. 2-col. 3).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shi in view of Blumenau, U.S. Patent No. 6,529,952.

Shi teaches a method of providing a single sign-on distributed application services integration, comprising the steps of receiving a first indication of a user pointing a browser to a first application; receiving a cookie file of said browser corresponding to the user; updating said cookie file; receiving a second indication of said user pointing said browser to a second application; and providing said updated cookie file to said second application (see rejection of claim 1).

Shi does not explicitly teach the cookie file is approximately 4 Kbytes. However Blumenau teaches saving website cookies that are approximately 4 Kbytes (see col. 1 lines 35-45).

It would have been obvious for one of the ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the 4 Kbytes cookies in Shi as taught by Blumenau because doing so would result in faster access to website since the size of the file is relatively small and therefore requiring less time to retrieve the cookie file.

8. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- System And Method For Maintaining Multiple Identities And Reputations For Internet Interactions by Megiddo, U.S. Patent No. 6,725,269.
- Method And Apparatus For Selectively Augmenting Retrieved Information From A Network Resource by Hobbs, U.S. Patent No. 6,523,022

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hussein A El-chanti whose telephone number is (703)305-4652. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00.

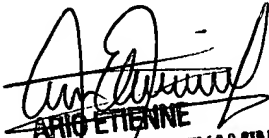
9. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on (703)308-7562. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Hussein El-chanti

May 20, 2004


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